

APPENDIX B - INVASIVE ALIEN PLANT SPECIES OF VIRGINIA

This list was developed in a cooperative project between the Department of Conservation and Recreation, Division of Natural Heritage and the Virginia Native Plant Society Blandy Experimental Farm, 400 Blandy Farm Lane, Unit 2, Boyce, Virginia 22620 (540) 837-1600 <http://www.vnps.org>

August 2002

Key

M = Mountains F = Full sun "P = Shade H = Hydric "M = Mesic "X = Xeric

COMMON NAME	SCIENTIFIC NAME	REGION			LIGHT			M O I S T U R E		
		M	P	C	F	P	S	H	M	X
Highly Invasive Species										
Tree-of-heaven	<i>Ailanthus altissima</i>	●	●	●	●	●			●	
Garlic mustard	<i>Alliaria petiolata</i>	●	●		●	●	●		●	
Alligator weed	<i>Alternanthera philoxeroides</i>			●	●	●		●		
Porcelain-berry	<i>Ampelopsis brevipedunculata</i>		●		●	●	●		●	
Asiatic sand sedge	<i>Carex kobomugi</i>			●	●	●				●
Oriental bittersweet	<i>Celastrus orbiculata</i>	●	●	●		●	●		●	
Short-fringed knapweed	<i>Centaurea dubia</i>	●			●	●			●	●
Spotted knapweed	<i>Centaurea maculosa</i>	●	●	●	●	●				●
Canada thistle	<i>Cirsium arvense</i>	●	●	●	●				●	
Chinese yam	<i>Dioscorea oppositifolia</i>	●	●	●		●	●		●	
Autumn olive	<i>Elaeagnus umbellata</i>	●	●	●	●	●			●	
Winged burning bush	<i>Euonymus alata</i>		●			●	●		●	
Hydrilla	<i>Hydrilla verticillata</i>			●	●	●		●		
Cogon grass	<i>Imperata cylindrica</i>			●		●	●		●	
Chinese lespedeza	<i>Lespedeza cuneata</i>	●	●		●				●	
Chinese privet	<i>Ligustrum sinense</i>	●	●	●		●	●		●	
Japanese honeysuckle	<i>Lonicera japonica</i>	●	●	●	●	●	●		●	
Morrow's honeysuckle	<i>Lonicera morrowii</i>	●	●		●	●	●		●	
Standish's honeysuckle	<i>Lonicera standishii</i>	●	●			●	●		●	
Purple loosestrife	<i>Lythrum salicaria</i> & <i>L. virgatum</i>	●	●	●	●			●	●	
White sweet clover	<i>Melilotus alba</i>	●	●	●	●	●			●	
Yellow sweet clover	<i>Melilotus officinalis</i>	●	●	●	●	●			●	
Japanese stilt grass	<i>Microstegium vimineum</i>	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	
Aneilima	<i>Murdannia keisak</i>		●	●	●	●		●		
Parrot feather	<i>Myriophyllum aquaticum</i>	●	●	●	●			●		
European water-milfoil	<i>Myriophyllum spicatum</i>	●	●	●	●			●		
Common reed	<i>Phragmites australis</i>		●	●	●	●		●	●	
Japanese knotweed	<i>Polygonum cuspidatum</i>	●	●	●	●	●			●	
Mile-a-minute	<i>Polygonum perfoliatum</i>		●		●	●	●		●	
Kudzu vine	<i>Pueraria lobata</i> (<i>P. montana</i>)	●	●	●	●	●	●		●	

Lesser celandine	<i>Ranunculus ficaria</i>				•		•	•		•
Multiflora rose	<i>Rosa multiflora</i>	•	•	•	•	•				•
Wineberry	<i>Rubus phoenicolasius</i>	•	•	•		•	•			•
Johnson-grass	<i>Sorghum halepense</i>	•	•	•	•	•				•
Moderately Invasive Species										
Norway maple	<i>Acer platanoides</i>	•	•	•	•	•				•
Quack grass	<i>Agropyron repens</i>	•	•	•	•	•				•
Rhode Island bent-grass	<i>Agrostis tenuis</i>	•	•		•	•				•
Five-leaf akebia	<i>Akebia quinata</i>		•	•	•	•	•			•
Wild onion	<i>Allium vineale</i>	•	•	•	•	•				•
Mugwort	<i>Artemisia vulgaris</i>	•	•	•	•	•				• •
Jointed grass	<i>Arthraxon hispidus</i>	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	
Giant reed	<i>Arundo donax</i>		•	•	•	•		•	•	
Japanese barberry	<i>Berberis thunbergii</i>	•	•	•	•	•	•			•
Balloon vine	<i>Cardiospermum halicacabum</i>			•	•					•
Musk thistle	<i>Carduus nutans</i>	•	•	•	•					•
Sickle pod	<i>Cassia obtusifolia</i>		•	•	•	•				• •
Brown knapweed	<i>Centaurea jacea</i>	•	•		•	•				• •
Bull-thistle	<i>Cirsium vulgare</i>	•	•	•	•					•
Field-bindweed	<i>Convolvulus arvensis</i>	•	•	•	•	•				•
Cut-leaf teasel	<i>Dipsacus laciniatus</i>	•			•					•
Common teasel	<i>Dipsacus sylvestris</i>	•	•	•	•			•	•	
Brazilian water-weed	<i>Egeria densa</i>	•	•	•	•	•		•		
Wintercreeper	<i>Euonymus fortunei</i>			•		•	•	•	•	
Tall fescue	<i>Festuca elatior (F. pratensis)</i>	•	•	•	•	•				•
Fennel	<i>Foeniculum vulgare</i>		•	•	•			•	•	•
Gill-over-the-ground	<i>Glechoma hederacea</i>	•	•	•		•	•			•
English ivy	<i>Hedera helix</i>		•	•	•	•	•			•
Velvet-grass	<i>Holcus lanatus</i>	•	•	•	•	•		•	•	
Japanese hops	<i>Humulus japonicus</i>	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	
Ivy-leaved morning-glor	<i>Ipomoea hederacea</i>	•	•	•	•	•		•	•	
Common morning-glory	<i>Ipomoea purpurea</i>	•	•	•	•					•
Yellow flag	<i>Iris pseudacorus</i>	•	•	•	•	•		•		
Shrubby bushclover	<i>Lespedeza bicolor</i>	•	•	•	•	•				•
Blunt-leaved privet	<i>Ligustrum obtusifolium</i>		•	•			•			•
Amur honeysuckle	<i>Lonicera maackii</i>	•	•			•				•
Tartarian honeysuckle	<i>Lonicera tatarica</i>	•	•		•	•				•
Moneywort	<i>Lysimachia nummularia</i>	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	
China-berry	<i>Melia azedarach</i>		•	•	•	•				•
Princess tree	<i>Paulownia tomentosa</i>	•	•	•	•	•				•
Timothy	<i>Phleum pratense</i>	•	•	•	•	•				•
Golden bamboo	<i>Phyllostachys aurea</i>		•	•	•	•				•
Canada bluegrass	<i>Poa compressa</i>	•	•	•	•	•	•			• •
Rough bluegrass	<i>Poa trivialis</i>	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	

Bristled knotweed	<i>Polygonum cespitosum</i>	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
White poplar	<i>Populus alba</i>	•	•	•	•	•			•
Jointed charlock	<i>Raphanus raphanistrum</i>	•	•	•	•				•
Red sorrel	<i>Rumex acetosella</i>	•	•	•	•	•			•
Curled dock	<i>Rumex crispus</i>	•	•		•				• •
Giant foxtail	<i>Setaria faberi</i>		•	•	•	•			•
Japanese spiraea	<i>Spiraea japonica</i>	•	•			•	•	•	•
Common chickweed	<i>Stellaria media</i>	•	•	•	•	•	•		•
Ivy-leaved speedwell	<i>Veronica herderifolia</i>	•	•	•	•	•	•		•
Chinese wisteria	<i>Wisteria sinensis</i>		•	•		•	•		•
Common cocklebur	<i>Xanthium strumarium</i>	•	•	•	•	•			• •

Occasionally Invasive Species

Redtop	<i>Agrostis gigantea</i>	•	•	•	•	•			•
Bugleweed	<i>Ajuga reptans</i>	•	•	•	•	•			• •
Mimosa	<i>Albizia julibrissin</i>	•	•	•	•	•			•
Oatgrass	<i>Arrhenatherum elatius</i>	•	•	•	•	•			•
Common dayflower	<i>Commelina communis</i>	•	•	•	•	•			•
Poison hemlock	<i>Conium maculatum</i>	•	•	•	•	•			•
Crown-vetch	<i>Coronilla varia</i>	•	•	•	•				• •
Orchard grass	<i>Dactylis glomerata</i>	•	•	•	•	•			•
Russian olive	<i>Elaeagnus angustifolia</i>	•	•	•	•	•			•
Thorny elaeagnus	<i>Elaeagnus pungens</i>		•	•		•			•
Weeping lovegrass	<i>Eragrostis curvula</i>	•	•	•	•				• •
Leafy spurge	<i>Euphorbia esula</i>	•	•			•	•		•
Red morning-glory	<i>Ipomoea coccinea</i>	•	•	•	•				•
Nipplewort	<i>Lapsana communis</i>	•			•	•			•
Sweet breath of spring	<i>Lonicera fragrantissima</i>		•		•	•			•
Bell's honeysuckle	<i>Lonicera x bella</i>	•	•	•	•	•			•
Birdsfoot trefoil	<i>Lotus corniculatus</i>	•	•	•	•	•			• •
Silver grass	<i>Miscanthus sinensis</i>	•	•	•	•	•			•
White mulberry	<i>Morus alba</i>	•	•	•	•	•			•
Wild parsnip	<i>Pastinaca sativa</i>	•	•	•	•	•			•
Beefsteak plant	<i>Perilla frutescens</i>	•	•	•		•	•		•
Black pine	<i>Pinus thunbergii</i>			•	•	•			•
Sawtooth oak	<i>Quercus acutissima</i>	•			•				•
Water chestnut	<i>Trapa natans</i>			•	•		•		•
Siberian elm	<i>Ulmus pumila</i>		•		•	•			•
Linden viburnum	<i>Viburnum dilatatum</i>		•		•	•			•
Periwinkle	<i>Vinca minor & V. major</i>	•	•	•	•	•	•		•
Japanese wisteria	<i>Wisteria floribunda</i>			•		•	•		•

“About the List” This advisory list is published by Virginia Department of Conservation and Recreation (VDCR) to inform land managers of potential risks associated with certain plant species known to exhibit invasive behavior in some situations. It should also be noted the list is not regulatory in nature, and thus does not prohibit the use of the listed plant species. VDCR Natural Heritage and Virginia Native Plant Society use detailed criteria to assess the invasiveness of a plant. Factors used to rank each species include: cumulative impacts on natural areas; potential to disperse and invade natural landscapes; distribution and abundance; difficulty to manage; and impacts on other species. The list is periodically reviewed and updated by land managers, nurserymen, landscape architects, horticulturalists, botanists, wildlife biologists, and other conservation partners. **“Invasiveness Ranking”** Each species on the list is assessed according to its cumulative effects on natural areas and native plant habitats where it typically occurs. The A-ranked species exhibit the most invasive tendencies in natural areas and native plant habitats. They may disrupt ecosystem processes and cause major alterations in plant community composition and structure. They establish readily in natural systems and spread rapidly. The B-ranked species exhibit moderate invasiveness in natural areas. They may have minor influence on ecosystem processes, alter plant community composition and affect community structure in at least one layer. They may become dominant in the understory layer without threatening all species found in the community. These species usually require a minor disturbance to become established. The C-ranked species generally do not affect ecosystem processes but may alter plant community composition by outcompeting one or more native plant species. They often establish in severely disturbed areas. The disturbance may be natural or human origin, such as ice- storm damage, windthrow, or road construction. These species spread slowly or not at all from disturbed sites. **“Regions”** For purposes of this list, the state has been divided into three regions. Coastal Plain and Piedmont follow conventional boundaries. Blue Ridge, Ridge and Valley, and Cumberland Plateau are grouped together into one region called Mountain. **“Habitat Requirements”** The categories for light and soil requirements are very broad and are meant only to give general indication of habitat adaptations for these plants.